



1997 Aston Martin V8 Coupe

POA

Overview

Mileage	25,100 miles
Fuel Type	Petrol
Engine Size	5.3 l
Bodystyle	2+2 COUPE
Transmission	Automatic
Exterior Colour	Rolls Royce Peacock Blue
Previous Owners	1
Registration	90LL



Description

The 1996 Aston Martin V8 Coupe is a fascinating piece of automotive history, representing a pivotal era for Aston Martin as it sought to modernise its offerings while maintaining the handcrafted luxury and exclusivity that defined the brand. Here's a deep dive into the story and history of this model:

Background: A Transitional Era

By the mid-1990s, Aston Martin was in a period of transition. Under the ownership of Ford, the company was working to balance its heritage of bespoke craftsmanship with the need to modernise production processes and expand its customer base. The V8 Coupe emerged as part of Aston Martin's strategy to refine its lineup and provide a more accessible alternative to the high-performance Vantage model.

Design and Development

The Aston Martin V8 Coupe was introduced in 1996 as a replacement for the long-running Virage, which had debuted in 1989. The V8 Coupe shared much of its design and underpinnings with the Virage but featured several refinements aimed at enhancing its appeal:

Styling:

The V8 Coupe retained the classic Aston Martin silhouette, characterised by its long hood, low roofline, and muscular stance.

Subtle changes to the front grille, headlamps, and bodywork gave it a more timeless and elegant appearance compared to the Virage.

Handcrafted Luxury:

Each V8 Coupe was meticulously hand-built at Aston Martin's Newport Pagnell facility, with extensive use of high-quality materials such as Connolly leather, Wilton carpets, and walnut veneers.

Customisation options allowed customers to personalise their cars to a remarkable degree.

Powertrain and Performance:

The V8 Coupe was powered by a naturally aspirated 5.3-liter V8 engine, producing 330 horsepower and 350 lb-ft of torque.

The engine was mated to either a 4-speed automatic, delivering a smooth and refined driving experience.

While not as aggressive as the Vantage, the V8 Coupe offered impressive performance, with a top speed of around 155 mph.

Market Position

The V8 Coupe was positioned as a more "gentlemanly" alternative to the Vantage, which was known for its supercar-like performance. It catered to buyers who prioritised comfort, style, and craftsmanship over outright speed. This approach made the V8 Coupe a desirable option for enthusiasts who valued Aston Martin's heritage.

Limited Production

Production of the Aston Martin V8 Coupe was extremely limited, with fewer than 200 units built between 1996 and 1999. This exclusivity has made the model a rare and collectible classic today. Its scarcity and timeless design ensure it remains a cherished part of Aston Martin's legacy.

Legacy

The 1996 Aston Martin V8 Coupe stands as a testament to the brand's dedication to handcrafted excellence during a challenging period in its history. While it was overshadowed by the more dramatic Vantage and later models like the DB7, the V8 Coupe is appreciated for its blend of traditional Aston Martin craftsmanship and understated elegance.

Its role in bridging the gap between the classic Aston Martins of the 1980s and the more modern offerings of the 2000s highlights its importance in the evolution of the marque. For collectors and enthusiasts, the V8 Coupe represents a unique snapshot of Aston Martin's journey through the late 20th century.

Location

Classicmobilia

Old Farm Park, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, MK7 8RE

07889 805432

Monday Appointment only

Tuesday Appointment only

Wednesday Appointment only

Thursday Appointment only

Friday Appointment only

Saturday Appointment only

Sunday Appointment only
